Thefacebook.com: Are you logged in?

The website takes away students' time that can be spent enjoying real college life

What's dumber than sitting around and talking on AOL Instant Messenger all day? Answer: Sitting around and trying to find friends on Thefacebook. There but for the grace of God, *Thefacebook.com* has taken college campuses by storm. And it's probably one of the worst things that could happen to this particular campus.

I'd like to remind all the idiots who are registered at Thefacebook (why can't it just be the Facebook? What's with this no spaces between the words business?) this is a tiny campus. Like, 1,500 undergraduates tiny. Why are you trying to find people you already know? Why don't you just call that person up and set aside some time to hang out? I don't understand why we all seem to have a phobia of one another. Instead of sitting at your damn computer waiting for bad eyesight and carpal tunnel syndrome to hit you, why don't you go make some real life friends? Start with your neighbors.

There is something wrong with this campus when three-on-three basketball tournaments are canceled due to lack of interest and Thefacebook got dozens of users as soon as it became available to Drew. It's simply ridiculous that Emerson Drive comes to our school and fewer people went to the concert than those who are registered at Thefacebook — an estimated 450 users according to *The Acorn*. I love how people choose to sit in their rooms waiting for some stalker to "poke" them as opposed to going to the first major concert on campus in two years or taking advantage of our proximity to New York City.

Tell me if this excerpt from an article by Kristi Hsu at *The Daily Texan* sounds familiar: "On a Monday at 2 a.m., Simeon Kwan sits in front of his computer, his face lit by the monitor's pale blue luminescence. Concentrating intently on the screen before him, he types furiously." I don't know about you, but I don't want to be that guy/gal waiting to see how many "friends" I have online as I sit in my dark dorm room at 2 a.m. If I'm going to be up that late on a weekday, I better either be doing my homework or working at the *Acorn* office.

Yes, I'm judging those who are registered at that dumb site. It's a sad world when the only excitement in a person's life is Thefacebook. I bite my thumb at you.

The website is a great place to rekindle old friendships and make new ones

Imagine opening up your e-mail to find more than one message with the subject "person X wants to be your friend." Not only is it possible, but it's happening right here on our campus every day to students with the use of an awesome online social networking website called *Thefacebook.com*. This website is possibly the best invention since AOL Instant Messenger for keeping friends together. The people who say they don't like the website probably know they would not get any friends anyway.

Yet, it's not just for boosting your own ego. This website is one of the coolest resources that I have ever seen for connecting people from the campus across the country.

Suppose you are sitting in your room, about to start studying for the huge test that you have tomorrow, when you realize that you left the book at home this weekend. With Thefacebook the solution is only a click away. Just log on and click on the class in your class list. Like magic, a roster of who is in that class comes up on your screen.

Now, at this point you may wonder, "Why can't I just use *attic.drew.edu* to do this?" Thefacebook doesn't just have the person's extension on it. It has their full name, extension, cell number, screenname, where they live and their photo.

Upon seeing the photos, you see that hot girl or guy in your class. You now have everything he or she has chosen to divulge online, including if he or she is in a relationship and with whom. With an excuse of a forgotten book, who knows what could happen?

But Thefacebook isn't just getting new people together. When you sign up, you can register which high school you went to.

After registering, you can search for everyone in a certain graduation year and find your friends at other colleges and universities. Many people have reconnected with friends that they haven't spoken to since graduation. Many college students are staying in touch with alumni who have already graduated.

Some argue that the website posts too much personal information online. Actually, you can put as much information about yourself online as you want. Then, you only give access to the groups you wish.

One should draw a line between browsing the website every so often and being an addicted member. But for those normal people out there, if you join the site, you will enjoy reconnecting with old friends and meeting some new ones.

IN THE RING

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